

Introduced by Senator Burton

April 8, 2003

Senate Resolution No. 17—Relative to unemployment insurance.

1 WHEREAS, The economy of the state and nation continues to  
2 languish, with no signs of full recovery yet; and

3 WHEREAS, The economic indicators in the housing market,  
4 auto sales, business purchasing, and the economies of our major  
5 trading partners suggest that economic activity is slowing down;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, California and 42 states are currently struggling  
8 with major budget deficits, reductions in spending, and other  
9 economic problems; and

10 WHEREAS, Due to weak demand, employers are attempting to  
11 reduce costs and are laying off workers at an accelerating pace; and

12 WHEREAS, The official unemployment rate in California,  
13 according to the most recent survey, reached 6.6 percent, and has  
14 remained well above the United States rate of unemployment; and

15 WHEREAS, The unemployment rate in certain areas of  
16 California is as high as 25 percent, and many counties are reporting  
17 unemployment in the double digits; and

18 WHEREAS, The high rate of unemployment has already  
19 triggered a 13-week extension of unemployment insurance  
20 benefits; and

21 WHEREAS, Many of those who qualified for the extension of  
22 unemployment insurance benefits have exhausted, or soon will  
23 exhaust, those benefits; and

24 WHEREAS, These high rates of unemployment, especially  
25 among those who have already exhausted their unemployment

1 insurance benefits, signal a deterioration in living standards and a  
2 decline in the purchasing power of the consumers; now, therefore,  
3 be it

4 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That Members  
5 of the Senate of the State of California urge Members of Congress  
6 to establish an additional 13-week extension for unemployment  
7 insurance benefits, fully funded by the federal government; and be  
8 it further

9 *Resolved*, That Members of the Senate of the State of California  
10 urge Members of Congress to provide that the insured  
11 unemployment rate may be determined on a substate or regional  
12 basis, and to allow counties and cities with an unemployment rate  
13 that is substantially higher than the overall state unemployment  
14 rate to qualify for additional weeks of unemployment insurance  
15 benefits provided for by federal law, even if the state is not eligible  
16 for that extension; and be it further

17 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
18 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

